

Chicago, Nov. 20, 1865.

Dear Wife:

I am off directly for Princeton, but must send you a line to report progress. On Friday, Hon. Norman B. Judd, late Minister to the Court of Berlin, and his wife, dined with me at Mr. Foy's. They were very agreeable and intelligent.

On Saturday forenoon, I removed my quarters to the residence of Mr. and Mrs. Doggett, where I have had a very pleasant time, barring severe hoarseness and a much inflamed state of the lungs. Yesterday I was in such a condition that I felt I must give up all my remaining engagements, and hurry home. I am not much better now, and do not see how I can get through even at Princeton. Only think, in this condition to be engaged to speak every evening for a week to come, besides all the private

talk, which is incessant, because of the number of those who call to me, and from whom I cannot easily withdraw. I talked for hours in this way yesterday. We had a large dinner party, and persons kept calling all the while.

I went to hear Robert Collyer preach; and who should come into the pew where I sat but my dear friend Gerrit Smith, and his daughter Mrs. Miller and her little girl! It was a great surprise to us both, as he did not know I was in the city. He is to remain a few days here — has a heavy cold and is hoarse like myself. Mrs. Miller has never visited Chicago before. Mr. Collyer took dinner with me.

Saturday forenoon I saw a good deal of Chicago, with growing wonder and delight. The hall of the Chamber of Commerce has no equal in the country for extent and beauty, and is worth coming from Boston to see.

The view from the lofty dome of the Court House is very fine and extensive, the great lake looking like the Atlantic ocean.

I am truly afraid I shall have to beat a retreat home, but must go to Princeton to-day, whether able to speak or not.

In case I break down, I shall lose several hundred dollars which I am anxious at this pinch to secure.

Aside from my throat and lungs, I am feeling very well. Give yourself no concern about me, as I shall endeavor to determine the matter nicely.

With my loving remembrances to all the dear ones, I remain,
Always your son

W. L. G.

